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Commissioner Jane E. Henney, M.D., 6885, 199 MAR 30 P1:47
FDA (HFE-88)
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20815

Dear Commissioner Henney:

I would like to express my disapproval on the FDA's decision about irradiation. I think they are taking a substantial amount of risks since irradiation has become an approved process. I therefore strongly disagree with the FDA's decision to allow irradiation.

First of all, irradiation is not fully understood. Tests on animals show that irradiation raises the statistics of miscarriages and sudden weight loss. Popular Science says, "The Meat industry is implementing simpler technologies to better clean carcasses at various stages in the processing lines." This means that meat industries are somewhat nervous about irradiation. We don't want the people of Maryland to be scared to eat their food, do we?

My second reason is that irradiation takes away many vitamins and nutrients, as well as warning odors. Irradiation wipes out 10% of the vitamins in a food. Health and Fitness states that "Irradiation can kill the organisms that warn people they are eating spoiled food." For instance, milk. Milk is not usually irradiated, but if it was, and it happened to be spoiled later... Think of the problems that this would cause.

My third reason is that irradiation is too expensive. Inexpensive strategies are better known

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